



Tribune-Star/Bonnie Jeffery

## Planning Arabian Fantasy

The Ladies Society and the Society of St. George will present the annual Arabian Nights at 9 p.m. Nov. 16 in the St. George Orthodox Church ballroom, 1900 S. Fourth St. Committee members are (seated) Dap Hester, publicity;

Father Daniel Rohan; Zack Kassis, chairman; (standing) George Kassis, co-chairman; Esther Simbol, chairman and publicity; Vicki Maloof, co-chairman and president of the Ladies Society; and Kaliopé Rohan, decorations.

# St. George societies plan Arabian Nights

A scene reminiscent of the legendary "Arabian Nights" will be featured Nov. 16 at 1900 S. Fourth St. when the Society of St. George and the Ladies Society of St. George Orthodox Church sponsor a public Hafla (dance).

The evening will be known as the Arabian Nights and the Hafla, a traditional social evening in the Middle Eastern Syrian nation which combines music, singing and dancing with audience participation.

Women of the Syrian community have long contributed their culinary arts, finest recipes and choice dishes to Terre Haute events.

The November event promises to be more of the same according to Danny Tanoos and Vicki Maloof, presidents of the organizations, and Father Daniel Rohan, spiritual advisor.

The Hafla or musical program

and dancing will take place from 9 p.m. until midnight. During the Hafla, Joe Matook from Indianapolis will play the oud, a lute-like instrument with six double strings and a fingerboard without frets; and George Azar of Terre Haute will be the vocalist and also will play the tambourine, a small drum.

Ferris Shahadey from Terre Haute will play the derbukke, a drum-like instrument also known as a durbeki or dumbeg in Syria.

Authentic Middle Eastern dances will be performed by members of the Society of St. George.

Dancers and musicians will be dressed in traditional Middle East caftans, ankle length garments with long sleeves worn in the eastern Mediterranean area.

The Society's men and women, boys and girls, will perform a

special dubkee. Guests also will be invited to participate in the dance.

Planning the event are Zack Kassis and Esther Simbol, co-chairmen; Vicki Maloof and George Kassis; Danny and Claudia Tanoos, tickets; Ladies Society, food; George Azar and Mike Ellis, refreshments; Kaliopé Rohan and George Kassis, decorations; and Dan Hester and Simbol, publicity.

For additional information and tickets, telephone 232-2105 or 898-2105. Ticket deadline is Nov. 9.

The public is invited. Tickets may be obtained from members of the organizations or at the Saratoga Restaurant, 431 Wabash Ave.; David's Food Center, 1800 S. Third St.; Sabb's Oriental Rugs and Linens, 3000 Dixie Bee Road; George Corey Grocery, 901 N. Eighth St.; Dee-Gee's Cafe, 1612 S. Seventh St.; and Kassis Katering Kitchen, 833 N. Seventh St.

Community Affairs File

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Churches w/ St. George Orth.



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

### Arabian Nights committee

The Society of St. George of St. George Orthodox Church will sponsor a public dinner and dance Nov. 12 at 1900 S. Fourth St. Committee chairmen are Rose Sabb, tickets; Mary Lou

Saikley, food; Janet Sabb, mid-eastern dancer; Zack Kassis, society president and refreshment co-chairman; and Meme Kassis, Kassis International Foods.

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Community Affairs File

Churches (H)

## Music highlights "Arabian Nights"

A scene reminiscent of the legendary "Arabian Nights" will take over the "Harvest Home" atmosphere at 1900 S. Fourth St. on Nov. 12 when the Society of St. George of St. George Orthodox Church will sponsor a public dinner and dance.

The evening is to be known as the "Arabian Nights" and "The Hafli," a traditional social evening in the Middle Eastern Syrian nation which combines music, singing and dancing together with audience participation for an evening which includes gourmet dining.

Dinner will be served from 7 to 9 p.m. and the "Hafli" or musical program and dancing to begin at 9.

The dinner menu will include Kibby, green beans (Lu-bee), rice (roz), combination salad (salata

kuthra), Syrian bread (talemee) and a Syrian dessert.

During the Hafli, Joe Sabb Jr., will play the oud, a lute-like instrument with six double strings and a fingerboard without frets; and Nassari of Detroit, Mich., will play the derbukke, a drum-like instrument also known as a "durbeki" or "dumbeg" in Syrian. Nassari will also be the featured vocalist in the Arabian tunes that will stress melody and rhythm.

Authentic Middle Eastern dances will be performed by members of the Society of St. George.

Both the dancers and musicians will be dressed in traditional Middle Eastern caftans, ankle length garments with long sleeves which were worn in the Levant, eastern Mediterranean area.

Guests will be invited to

participate in a special dubkee (circle dance).

In charge of arrangements for the evening are the Ladies Society, food; Rose Sabb, tickets; George Azar and Zack Kassis, refreshments; and Esther Simbol, publicity.

The evening is open to all interested persons and tickets may be obtained at the Saratoga Restaurant, 431 Wabash Ave.; Kassis International Foods, 2318 Wabash Ave.; Kassis Katering, 833 N. Seventh St.; David's Foods, 1800 S. Third St.; and Sabb's Oriental Rugs and Linens, 300 Dixie Bee Road. Deadline for ticket sales is Wednesday, Nov. 9.

For more information may contact Mrs. Sabb at 299-4809, or call the church at 232-2105.





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## Arabian Nights entertainment

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Oud player George Kassis and Farris Shahadey, on the darbouka, practice Middle Eastern music for the Nov. 16 Arabian Nights

in the St. George ballroom, 1900 S. Fourth St. Getting in step are Mary Rose Corey, Mary Ellis and Florence Clutter.

Community Affairs File

# Music highlights 'Arabian Nights'

The Ladies Society and the Society of St. George Orthodox Church will present "Arabian Nights" from 9 p.m. to midnight Nov. 16 in the St. George ballroom, 1900 S. Fourth St.

Entertainers for the Halfa will be Joe Matook of Indianapolis, oud; George Azar, vocalist and playing the tambourine; and Farris Shahadey, derbukee.

In Arabian music, stress in on melody and rhythm. Tunes are simple with a song-dance folk quality. The instruments are used to accompany the voice more than for independent performance.

The oud is a lute-like instrument with six double strings and a fingerboard without frents. It also is similar to a mandolin, which could be tuned to sound like a oud.

The tambourine, a shallow one-headed drum with loose metallic disks at the sides, is played by shaking, striking with hands or rubbing with the thumb.

The darbouka also is called the durbeki or dumbeg. It is a traditional drum of the Middle East

and is made in two parts which produce two basic counts: the flat vibration that results in the drum and the sharper, more metallic sound that is the Tek.

Florence Clutter, Mary Helen Ellis and Lori Nasser along with dance groups will be performing authentic Middle Eastern dancing, reminiscent of the Arabian Nights.

An added attraction this year will be group dancing by the Greeks as well as the Arabic dancing.

Women and men will wear Mideast caftans.

The event is open to the public.

Tickets may be obtained from members of the organization or at the Saratoga Restaurant, 431 Wabash Ave.; David's Food Center, 1800 S. Third St.; Sabb's Oriental Rugs and Linens, 3000 Dixie Bee Road; George Corey Grocery, 901 N. Eighth St.; Dee-Gee's Cafe, 1612 S. Seventh St.; Kassis Katering Kitchen, 833 N. Seventh St.; Tanoo's Market, 1700 S. 10th St.; or by telephoning 232-2105 or 898-2105. Ticket deadline is Nov. 9.